

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 2, 2008

SENATE BILL

No. 1494

Introduced by ~~Senator McClintock~~ *Senators McClintock and Florez*

February 21, 2008

An act to add Title 21 (commencing with Section 99600) to the Government Code, relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1494, as amended, McClintock. State agency Web sites: information.

Existing law imposes specified duties on state governmental agencies and provides for public access to government records.

This bill would require each state department and agency to develop and operate a Web site accessible by the public that includes specified information relating to expenditures of state funds, defined to include, among other things, grants, contracts, subcontracts, purchase orders, and tax refunds, rebates, and credits.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 21 (commencing with Section 99600) is
2 added to the Government Code, to read:

3
4 TITLE 21. TAXPAYER TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2008

5
6 99600. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
7 Taxpayer Transparency Act of 2008.

1 99601. (a) ~~For~~ *The following definitions apply for purposes*
2 of this title:

3 (1) “Searchable Web site” means a Web site that allows the
4 public to search and aggregate information described in Section
5 99602.

6 (2) “Expenditure of state funds” means the expenditure or
7 transfer of any state appropriated or nonappropriated funds in an
8 amount in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) by any
9 department, agency, office or entity of state government in forms
10 including, but not limited to:

11 (A) Grants.

12 (B) Contracts.

13 (C) Subcontracts.

14 (D) Purchase orders.

15 (E) Tax refunds, rebates, and credits.

16 (F) Expenditures from the Reserve for Revenue Fluctuations.

17 (b) “Expenditure of state funds” shall not include the transfer
18 of funds between two departments, agencies, offices or entities of
19 state government, or the transfer of state or federal assistance
20 payments to an individual recipient or beneficiary of those
21 assistance payments.

22 99602. (a) No later than January 1, 2009, with assistance from
23 the office of the State Chief Information Officer, the Department
24 of Finance, and the Governor’s office, each state department and
25 agency shall develop and operate a Web site, accessible by the
26 public at no cost, that includes:

27 (1) For each expenditure of state funds, information including,
28 but not limited to:

29 (A) The name and principal location or residence of each entity
30 or other recipient of the funds.

31 (B) The amount of expenditure.

32 (C) The type of transaction.

33 (D) The identity of the department, agency, office, or other
34 entity of state government making the expenditure.

35 (E) The budget program source for the expenditure.

36 (F) A description of the purpose of the expenditure.

37 (G) A description of any item purchased pursuant to the
38 expenditure.

39 (H) Any other information deemed relevant by the Department
40 of Finance and the Governor’s office.

1 (2) The ability of the user to view information on the Web site
2 in a format that is searchable and that may be downloaded and
3 managed by the user with appropriate software.

4 (3) The ability of users to provide input to the Department of
5 Finance regarding the utility of the site and recommendations for
6 improvements to the site.

7 (b) The Web site shall include information for the 2007–08
8 fiscal year no later than January 1, 2009, and thereafter, the Web
9 site shall include information for the most recently completed fiscal
10 year by June 30th each year.

11 (c) Each department, agency, and entity of state government
12 shall fully cooperate with the Department of Finance and the
13 Governor’s office in compiling and providing all information
14 necessary to comply with the requirements of this section.

15 (d) Nothing in this section requires disclosure of information
16 deemed confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under
17 state or federal law.